

OCA FILE LEG

21 September 1988  
OCA 3163-88

NOTE FOR: Director of Congressional Affairs  
THROUGH: Deputy Director for Legislation  
Office of Congressional Affairs  
FROM: Legislation Division  
Office of Congressional Affairs  
SUBJECT: Presidential Signing Statement for FY89  
Intelligence Authorization Bill

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Today I spoke with Annette Rooney of OMB regarding the above. I explained that we wanted to be sure to have an opportunity to review any signing statements before they were sent to the White House. She said she did not know if that was possible. I reminded her that she had said a few days ago that any signing statements would be circulated throughout the Administration. She retracted from that position somewhat, stating that our statement would be routed to the Department of Justice, but the reverse would not necessarily occur. The reason is that the Department of Justice reviews such items placed before the President for signature.

Annette said she would check and see if we could indeed review any draft statements. I also asked that, if OMB cannot divulge the contents of any draft signing statements to us, they at least alert us to their existence. She again said she would do so.

Because of the sensitivity of this matter, you may wish to call OMB or drop them a note explaining that we deem it extremely important that we have the opportunity to review any draft signing statements on our bill. As you recall, Justice told us before that they would give us the opportunity to review the letter they sent to the Hill before actually sending it, but they did not do so. OMB has approximately five days before they must send the bill and accompanying materials to the White House for signature, which does not give us much time.

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